joys constitutional status by virtue of the provisions of Article 338 of the Constitution. There is no proposal under consideration of Government to give statutory status to the Minorities Commission.

Settlement of vannier issue

1775. SHRI N. RAJANGAM: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any positive steps or a reasonable settlement to Vannier issue;

(b) whether it is a act that his problem creates enmity between Vanniyars and Harijans;

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SMT. SUMMATI ORAON): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Establishment of Hazards control system

1776. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 250 major hazardous chemical factories are proposed to be covered under the scheme which has been launched with the help of the international organisation or establishing major Hazards Control System in India;

(b) if so what are the main features of the proposal and whether the project also involves preparing a draft on the control of major industrial accidents and hazards regulation including inspection and reporting procedure; and

(c) what is the total amount spent by ILO in this regard and what are the States that will be covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) An ILO Project on 'Establishment and initial operation of major accident hazards control system in India' is being implemented by the Ministry of Labour. Under the project 259 major accident hazard factories have been identified in the nine participating States/UT's viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Goa and Delhi.

(b) The project will result in:—

(i) Establishment of a major Accident Hazards Control Advisory Division in Central Labour Institute Bombay;

(ii) Strengthening of Regional Labour Institute in Calcutta, Kanpur and Madras in the field of chemical safety and equipping of their chemical laboratories;

(iii) Creation of a data bank on hazardous substances and installations as well as specialist on major accident hazard;

(iv) Strengthening specialised chemical inspection capabilities of the factory inspectorates in the States/Union Territories;

(v) Organisation of training at various levels; and

(vi) framing draft regulations on Major Accident hazards control.

(c) The total input of the ILO/Donor under the project amounts to US 16,43,020. The nine States/UT covered under the project are: Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Goa and Delhi;

Supply of imported oil to Vanaspati manufacturers at concessional rates

1777. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vanaspati, for which imported oil worth crores of rupees is allotted at a concessional rate, is consumed mostly by commercial establishments and not directly by the common average consumer;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for supplying imported oil at concessional rates to the Vanaspati Industry; and